THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Government has noted that in response to a query, the Spokesperson of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs conveyed to PTI on October, 25, 2006, that China has no such plans to build a dam and divert water from Yarlung Zangbo (Brahmaputra) to the Yellow River.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Goverment has raised the issue with the Chinese Government.

Assistance to Andhra Pradesh under AIBP

708. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has sought Rs. 4,000 crore from the Central Government under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) and has also demanded an early release of Rs. 600 crore to implement six additional projects under it;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon as on date;

(c) whether there had been delay due to technical reasons and natural calamities to complete the fast track projects to irrigate;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to complete the projects in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRYOF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Central Assistance (CA) under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) is provided for irrigation projects on year to year basis keeping in view the ceiling fixed by the Planning Commission for the State as a whole and the budget provisions made by the State Government in State budget for that particular year for the projects posed for CA under the programme. The States are required to submit proposal (for new and for ongoing projects under AIBP) for CAon year to year basis. However, proposal for seeking Rs. 4000 crore under AIBP has not been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh. So far grant amounting to Rs. 90.70 crore has been released under AIBP for 2 projects of the State.

(c) to (e) The reasons for non-completion of projects are resource crunch of the State Government, thin spreading of resources, land acquisition problems, resettlement and rehabilitation problems, delay in obtaining clearances of the projects by the State Governments from various appraising agencies. The completion of the ongoing irrigation projects depends on the allocation of funds and the priority assigned to the project by the State Governments.